



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



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STATEMENT FROM MAYOR LIGHTFOOT ON MADELEINE ALBRIGHT'S PASSING

"I am deeply saddened to hear of Madeleine Albright's passing and offer my sincerest condolences to her loved ones. As the first woman to hold the position of U.S. Secretary of State, she was a trailblazer for women across the globe and an inspiration to those working to bolster democracy in their respective nations. Albright was guided by a deep-rooted belief that everyone is entitled to peace and safety. As U.S. Secretary of State, she fought to end violence in the Balkans and was critical in influencing President Clinton to intercede in Kosovo to prevent genocide. Throughout her retirement, Albright continued to advocate for democracy around the world as a teacher and prolific writer. Through her powerful speeches and presence, which was often accentuated with one of her famous brooches, Albright spoke up for those who could not speak for themselves. In her own words, 'It took me quite a long time to develop a voice, and now that I have it, I am not going to be silent.'"